

□ 1956

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. YODER, SCOTT of South Carolina, and POE of Texas changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 376, Consideration of PATRIOT Act Extension, had I been present, I would have voted “nay.”

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall vote 376.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted “nay” for rollcall vote 376.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for personal reasons, and missed a recorded vote for S. 990, the PATRIOT Sunsets Extension Act of 2011. If present, I would have recorded my vote as “nay” for rollcall vote 376.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 376, I was away from the Capital region attending the Civil Rights Freedom Riders’ 50th Anniversary Celebration. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay.”

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO UNITED STATES GROUP OF THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BROOKS). Pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair announces the Speaker’s appointment of the following Member of the House to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly:

Mr. LARSON, Connecticut

FAREWELL, TOM MCAVOY

(Mr. GARDNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, times have been hard for the newspaper business; but this week, the Pueblo Chieftain experienced an especially tough loss—the retirement of its editorial research director, Tom McAvoy.

Tom is a native of Pueblo, Colorado. He graduated from Central High School in 1964 and from CSU-Pueblo. After receiving a master’s degree in journalism from Ohio State University in 1969, he spent a year working in the AP’s Denver bureau until he accepted a teaching position at his alma mater back in Pueblo, Colorado.

During the summers, he worked part time in the Chieftain’s newsroom; and in 1977, the position became full time. When Tom began his career, these were the days of Woodward and Bernstein, Hunter S. Thompson, and Gloria Steinem. Investigative reporting and gonzo journalism just don’t exist like that anymore. These were also the

days before emails and cell phones, and stories were literally filed over the wires. Tom is, without a doubt, what one would consider “old school.”

In 1983, Tom took over as the political beat reporter for the Chieftain, working out of its Denver bureau for the next 21 years. He covered the State capitol, three Governors; and he remembers what the Colorado legislature was like before term limits.

I’ve had the opportunity to work with Tom not only at the State capitol in Denver, Colorado, but at the Chieftain. He knows a great deal and cares a great deal about Colorado, south-eastern Colorado, and the water law that has made Colorado the great State that it is today. Not only am I going to miss Tom McAvoy, but I know the people of Pueblo and the people of south-eastern Colorado will as well.

Tom, thank you for your service to the people, and I look forward to working with you because I know, in retirement, you’re still not going away.

□ 2000

MEMORIAL DAY: REMEMBERING OUR WAR HEROES

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Veterans Day is the day we honor our veterans who go overseas and they return. Memorial Day is the day we honor our soldiers, our sailors, our airmen who go overseas and they don’t return. Monday is Memorial Day, and all Americans should give homage and honor, praise and prayers for those that served and gave up their lives for the rest of us. They gave their youth for our future.

Not far from where we are today, right down The Mall, is the newest memorial on The Mall; it’s the World War II Memorial. It’s a massive memorial to those World War II—the “Greatest Generation”—veterans that served. On the back wall there it looks like a bronze plate. And if you get closer, Mr. Speaker, you notice that it’s not a bronze plate at all, but there are thousands of stars; 400,000 stars on the World War II Memorial, and each one of those represents a young American that went overseas in the great World War II and did not return; 400,000 Americans. Those are just a few that have served and given their lives.

Patriotism is a good thing. This Memorial Day we praise those who served, and we praise the families of those who served.

And that’s just the way it is.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RUSSELL SKINNER

(Mr. BRADY of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Our postman is retiring this weekend. Normally that

wouldn’t be national news, but this is no ordinary man. Russell Skinner has been serving our community and our neighborhood for more than 30 years. He’s more than that; he’s an entrepreneur. He has his own flooring company. You’ll see him on evenings and weekends working to try to provide not just good service to his customers, but to take care of his family as well. He runs a Christian gospel singing group. You will see him in our local churches around the region bringing God’s songs and music across our region.

Russell Skinner loves his country, he loves our soldiers, he loves his family, and he loves his God. And he is just part of the American dream, living it, working it, fighting it. Russell Skinner will be missed in our community. He is what’s great about America.

THE PATRIOT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, it’s my honor to be recognized to address you here on the floor of the United States House of Representatives and this great deliberative body that we have, and especially immediately in the aftermath of this historic vote that has just gone up on the Patriot Act.

As we have debated this and worked with an amendment process and negotiations that took place in the Senate, we got down to the last minutes here. And I presume final passage of the Patriot Act is now on its way to the President’s desk to be signed tonight so that there’s not a window of vulnerability with regard to the intelligence that we can gather against our enemies that are evermore coming into the United States and plotting against us globally.

This is an issue that emerged when we saw our vulnerabilities in the immediate aftermath of September 11. And as that was dealt with here in this Congress—and I will say that of pieces of legislation that have been passed in a relative emergency situation, the Patriot Act among them stands out as something that came together with—it was clearly a bipartisan effort to put the Patriot Act language together; it was done so with the information that we had at the time. Some of that information was gathered in a hasty fashion—the smoke was certainly rolling up out of Ground Zero in New York while the Patriot Act was passed here in the House of Representatives.

It was also passed with the idea that it had sunsets on it so it required reauthorization so that Congress would come back and have oversight over the authority that was granted in the Patriot Act to do surveillance. For example, roving wire taps. Clear back in the 1980s it was understood with cell phones that when investigators were investigating organized crime, for example, the Mob had it figured out